



## WINGS OVER LOUDOUN FLIES INTO THE PARK ON MAY 13

Claude Moore Park's **Wings Over Loudoun Bird Festival** flies in for a landing at the park on Saturday, May 13. Join the park staff as we welcome the spring migratory birds home for the summer!

From 8-10 AM, there will be an early morning Bird Walk; join our walk hosted by an experienced bird watcher. May is peak migration with birds returning from the tropics. You can expect to see 25-30 different bird species like flycatchers, herons, hawks, woodpeckers, warblers, thrushes, and tanagers. The walk is for ages 8 and over and all children must be accompanied by an adult.

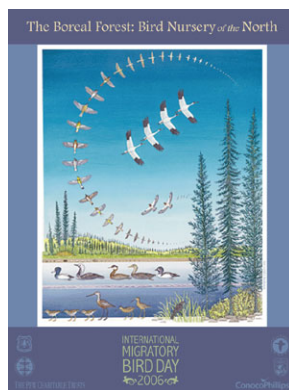
From 9 AM-1 PM, you can celebrate International Migratory Bird Day with many activities. The park will host a guided trail walk while looking and listening for returning spring birds. Frogshackle Nature Center will be open and staffed. You can make your own birdfeeder and other bird-related craft projects. Check

out the live raptor show "View From The Top" by The Wildlife Center of Virginia at 10:30 AM and 12 PM. Get your face painted in your favorite feather colors! You can also win bird-related prizes in our "Bird Banding Raffle."

Parking is available at the Visitor Center and at the Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum. The event is FREE and all children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information or to register your group of 10 or more, contact Claude Moore Park at 703-444-1275 or stop by the Visitor Center, Monday through Friday, 9 AM-5 PM.

**Come welcome the spring birds!**



## EGGS AND BUNNIES!

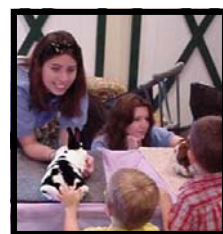
Claude Moore Park's Eggstravaganza and the Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum's Bunny Bonanza were held on Wednesday, April 12 with mild temperatures and sunny skies.

Eggstravaganza offered the opportunity for children to visit Frogshackle Nature Center, participate in some hands-on nature activities, and of course, hunt for eggs filled with special

treats! This event focuses on fun while teaching children a little bit about animals that come from eggs. Approximately 197 children hunted for eggs in the park's historic district during the event.

Bunny Bonanza entertained 186 young farmers and their families. Loudoun County's Animal Care and Control and their Rabbitwise program made a stop at the event, as well as members of the Leaps and Squeaks Rabbit and Cavy Club of Northern Virginia.

A great day was had by all visitors to these great events!



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#### CLAUDE MOORE PARK

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**We're on the web!**

**Try: [www.loudoun.gov/prcs/parks/claude.htm](http://www.loudoun.gov/prcs/parks/claude.htm)**

## THANK YOU to our volunteers!

Claude Moore Park's annual **Spring Trail Clean-Up Day** was held on Saturday, April 22 from 8 AM-12 PM. Unfortunately, Mother Nature did not provide us with sunny skies or warm temperatures; in fact, it was downright cold and wet for all involved.

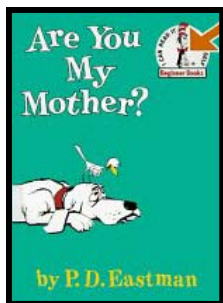
Despite the weather, 55 of our 113 registered volunteers braved the weather and came out to the park to conduct litter patrol and trail maintenance. The volunteers were able to collect 50 bags of trash and miscellaneous wood debris for a total of .21 tons of trash deposited at the County's landfill. Claude Moore Park holds this clean-up day in conjunction with Keep Loudoun Beautiful Month. A **BIG THANK YOU** is due to our volunteers for their generosity on this day:

- Jill Bidwell, Individual Volunteer
- Lenora Falciani, Individual Volunteer
- Leslie and Brian Haffner, Individual Volunteers
- Colleen Newman, Churchill Elementary School (15 schoolchildren)
- Diane Henderson, Cub Scout Pack #1483 (6 scouts and chaperones)
- Vanessa Hiller, Brownie Troop #4069 (9 scouts and chaperones)
- Archetta Walters, Adopt-A-Trail Member
- Sandy Simpson, Broad Run High School Key Club, Adopt-A-Trail Member (3 students and chaperones)
- Sarah Dunn, Tetra Tech, Adopt-A-Trail Member (2 volunteers)
- Edd Nichols, Adopt-A-Trail Member
- Mike Brooks, Cub Scout Pack #1156, Adopt-A-Trail Member (9 scouts and chaperones)
- Emily Cook, Junior Girl Scout Troop #1501, Adopt-A-Trail Member (3 scouts and chaperones)
- Harrison Crecraft, Friends of Claude Moore Park, Adopt-A-Trail Member
- Erica Pytlovany, Adopt-A-Trail Member

## SAVE THE DATES! Upcoming special events or programs that you don't want to miss!

Claude Moore Park has some special events and great programs coming up in the next few months.

**"Are You My Mother?"** is a great preschool program available during the month of May. Read the adventure of the baby bird in the book as he searches for his mom. Create a bird puppet and see if you can find its mom in the forest. Two classes are available: Monday, May 8 and Thursday, May 11. Two class times are available on each day: 9:30-11 AM and 12:30-2 PM. For more information, call the park and ask about class #361129.



**Gaggles of Goslings** (#361129) waddles into the park this spring and is available for all preschoolers. Hunt for the hatchlings of spring, the goslings and ducklings that follow mom and dad through the meadows and ponds. Find a nest and waddle like a duck. Play a game of duck, duck, goose and check out their footprints. Two classes are available: Monday, May 15 and Thursday, May 18. Two class times are available on each day: 9:30-11 AM and 12:30-2 PM.



If you have an elementary-age student who loves spiders, then join us for **Webs and Weavers** on Tuesday, May 16. Catch a spider and experience it up close and personal. How many eyes does it have? How does it protect itself? Search for homes and webs. Try to weave a web of your own. Class #361209 runs from 3:30-5 PM.



**Frogshackle Nature Center** also has several open house opportunities throughout the spring months. Run your fingers through a muskrat's fur. See a life-size fox. Make animal tracks in the sand. Explore our log cabin nature center and see and touch many fascinating objects. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The nature center is showcasing a theme each month; this spring, the themes are as follows: May, "Birds/Nests" and June, "Camouflage." Open Houses are scheduled on the following dates/times, and pre-registration is NOT required for this FREE program: Thursday, May 18, 2:30-3:30 PM, and Thursday, June 15, 11 AM-12 PM.

Lastly, gate closing times will change in May. The park's nature and pedestrian gates will be closing at 8 PM starting, Monday, May 1; this time will remain the same through late summer. The Sportsplex gate closes at the conclusion of each evening's sporting activities.

## Civil War History Tours Available This Spring!

Claude Moore Park has teamed up with Historian Steve Meserve for some fabulous Civil War History Tours this spring. If you enjoy learning about different battles and the legendary leaders of this time period, then join Steve for one of his spring trips. See below for his trip descriptions, and contact the park for more information or to register.

### CIVIL WAR: EARLY'S MD RAID

**Saturday, May 27, 9 AM-5 PM (361719-01) (NOTE DATE CHANGE)**

Follow Jubal Early's route on his Washington raid. Visit Round Hill, where Early's wagon train was attacked by the 21st NY and the 2nd Maryland Cavalry. Travel on past Harper's Ferry to Frederick for a tour of the Monocacy Battlefield, then on to Fort Stevens in Washington before returning. **Register by 5/5/06.**



### CIVIL WAR: 8TH VA AT MANASSAS

**Saturday, June 10, 9 AM-5 PM (361727-01)**

Follow the route the 8th Virginia Infantry took from Leesburg to the battle of First Manassas, possibly including a visit to Thoroughfare Gap. After touring the First Manassas Battlefield, step forward in time a year to explore the 8th Virginia at Second Manassas and visit the sites where they fought that action. Additional \$3 fee or National Park Service/Golden Eagle pass needed to enter Manassas Battlefield. Register by **6/9/06.**

All trips will depart from and return to the parking lot at the Claude Moore Park Visitor Center in Sterling, VA. Our street address is 21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling, VA 20164. Please bring a bag lunch with you. All children must be accompanied by an adult, and the trips are recommended for people ages 12 and over. For more information, please contact Claude Moore Park at 703-444-1275.

## Photos from around the park.



The front entrance of the CMP Recreation Center takes shape.



The goslings made their arrival known during the week of April 24th.



Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*) blooms at the Visitor Center pond.



Students from Forest Grove Elementary School enjoy a field trip at the park.

## Calling all Arts & Crafts Vendors

Do you make and sell jewelry? Do you carve wood and sell your carvings? Do you sculpt pottery and sell your wares? If so, then Claude Moore Park is looking for you. The park is hosting the 2nd Annual Autumn Arts & Crafts Show on Saturday, September 9, 2006.



Claude Moore Park is approximately 30 miles from Washington, DC and Frederick, MD, in the heart of Northern Virginia's shopping district, and close to Route 7, the Capital Beltway, the Dulles Greenway, and Route 28.

This outdoor show will run 10 AM-5 PM; vendors will be assigned set-up and break-down times. For \$30, vendors will be provided with an assigned 10 x 10 area; vendors must provide their own tables, chairs, and tents. This event will be held rain or shine. LIMITED electricity is available for \$10; at this time, the park is limiting electricity to food vendors.

Spaces will be pre-assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. A final confirmation packet will be sent two weeks prior to the show detailing directions, a park map, and grounds information including each vendor's location. Admission to the public is FREE.

Again, the park is only accepting vendors who hand-make their products. The park will not accept manufacturers, retailers, resellers, or importers.

Please visit [www.loudoun.gov/prcs/parks/claude.htm](http://www.loudoun.gov/prcs/parks/claude.htm) and go to the park's special event section; vendors can download an application from this site. Be sure to follow all directions to apply for this year's show.